

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80751

Seishi KASAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/809,832

Group Art Unit: 1732

Confirmation No.: 7954

Examiner: Keith Joseph GODFREY

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: PROCESS OF PRODUCING THREE-Dimensionally SHAPED OBJECT

SUBMISSION OF EXECUTED DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Amendment filed April 23, 2007 and the RCE filed May 23, 2007, a copy of an executed Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 signed by Seishi Kasai is submitted herewith in support of the patentability of the present invention. Please consider the Declaration in conjunction with the Amendment filed April 23, 2007 and the remarks therein.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: July 5, 2007

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Seishi Kasai, hereby declare and state:

I am a citizen of Japan.

I graduated from Kyushu University, Faculty of General Science and Engineering,
Course of Molecular Engineering in March of 1987.

Since April of 1987, I have been employed by Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd. (now FujiFilm Corporation) and have been engaged in research and development of materials for printing plates at the Yoshida-Minami Factory Research Division.

I am a co-inventor of the above-identified application and I am familiar with the subject matter thereof.

In support of the patentability of the present invention, the following experimentation was conducted by me or under my direct supervision.

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132
U.S. Application No.: 10/809,832

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I reproduced Example 1 of Hailoren, which is considered to be the closest to the present invention.

Experiment

The preparation of photocurable ceramic particles dispersion product and the measurement of the residual water content were conducted as follows.

(1) Preparation of Dispersion Product

- 1) Dispersion of 30 wt% monomers (acrylamide/methylene bisacrylamide = 9/1) /0.5 wt% dispersant/ 20 vol% silica powder (mixing for 15 minutes/milling for 3 hours)
- 2) Dispersion of additional 0.5 wt% dispersant /20 vol% silica powder (milling)
- 3) Dispersion of additional 1 wt% dispersant /10 vol% silica powder (milling for 2 hours)
- 4) Dispersion of prepared 50 vol% silica dispersion product in total (milling for 5 hours)
- 5) Addition of photoinitiation system (0.7 wt% DAROCUR®2959 /0.4 wt% DAROCUR®4265) and dispersion (milling for 3 hours)

(2) Preparation of Coating Film

- 1) 400 µm film was formed on a glass slide by coating
- 2) UV exposure (5168 mJ/cm²)

(3) Measurement of Residual Water Content

- 1) The weight of the coating glass slide after exposure above was measured, and the residual water content was calculated from the difference between the weights before and after exposure.

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132
U.S. Application No.: 10/809,832

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Result

It was confirmed that the residual water content was 1.0 wt%. Similar results would be expected from the other working examples of Halloran.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is clear that even if Brodtkin and Halloran were combined as suggested by the Examiner, the present invention of a process of producing a three-dimensionally shaped object comprising steps (a)-(c), satisfying the relationship of n_1 and n_2 and wherein a volatile component of the UV curable binder after curing with UV rays is not more than 5% by weight as recited in the present claims would not have been achieved.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: July 3, 2007

Seishi Kasai
Seishi Kasai